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Summer 2004

News CASS: Newsletter of the Center for Appalachian Studies and Services (winter/summer, 2004)

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NewsCASS

Winter-Summer
2004

Newsletter of the Center for Appalachian Studies and Services • East Tennessee State University

Herrin Appointed New Director

After two years of interim leadership, the Center for Appalachian Studies and Services now has a permanent director. Roberta T. Herrin took over as director on January 2, 2004. Herrin, who has a Ph.D. in English from the University of Tennessee, has been at East Tennessee State University since 1976 as professor of English, and, most recently, associate dean of the School of Graduate Studies.

Long active in the area of Appalachian Studies, Herrin served as chair of the CASS board of directors from 1985-1993. She has also served in leadership positions in the Appalachian Consortium and the Appalachian Studies Association (ASA) as well as with the South Atlantic Modern Language Association, the Southern Appalachian Highlands Conservancy, and numerous other organizations. Her writings have been published in many journals, including the Center's *Now & Then*,

and she has two articles that will be included in the forthcoming *Encyclopedia of Appalachia*. In recognition of Herrin's contributions to Appalachian Studies and the ASA, she was awarded the Cratis D. Williams/James S. Brown Service Award in 1998. This award is given annually at the ASA conference to, as stated on the ASA web site, "an individual who has made exemplary contributions to Appalachia and/or the Appalachian Studies Association."

Staff members at CASS are looking forward to working with Herrin, whose intent is to strengthen the Center's presence both on and off campus. The Reece Museum and Archives of Appalachia will be an important focus, recognizing their potential for scholarship, research, service, and visibility for both CASS and the uni-

Continued on page 3

Veterans History Project to be Dedicated

The Center for Appalachian Studies and Services, in partnership with ETSU's Office of Rural and Community Health and Community Partnerships, will hold a dedication for the Veterans History Project and a workshop emphasizing family history preservation in April. The dedication is the culmination of two years' work and many interviews conducted by college and high school students and faculty and community volunteers.

Northeast Tennessee has the highest percentage of veterans of any region in the state and among the highest in the nation. Men and women from the Tennessee mountains have a proud history of volunteering for service. Unfortunately, the stories of their lives and sacrifices have not been recorded. With the constant passing of so many World War II and Korean War veterans, their stories are lost, as is a piece of our own Appalachian history.

Enter the Veterans History Project, approved by Congress in 2000, and looking for a vehicle in Northeast Tennessee. In January 2002, Congressman Bill Jenkins' office invited the Community Partnerships program to participate in a meeting to discuss how the First Tennessee Congressional District could participate in collecting interviews from veterans as part of the project. What has emerged reflects the mission of the Community Partnerships program, underwritten by a grant from the Kellogg Foundation, to involve students and faculty from the university with community volunteers to plan and conduct programs that meet broad community needs.

The project has built upon excellent relationships among Jenkins' congressional office, veterans' organizations, and

Continued on page 8



**Preservation Gift
and Grant**
P. 6



Upcoming Exhibits
P. 5



New Executive Aid
P. 7

From the Director:

Having been a faculty member at ETSU since 1976, I joined the Center for Appalachian Studies and Services with a fairly good understanding of its history and programs—or so I thought. In the two months since January 5, 2004, I have come to appreciate more fully the breadth, depth, and complexity of the Center. For example, the Regional Resources Institute alone, which makes up CASS along with the Archives of Appalachia and the Carroll Reece Museum, entails more than 30 financial accounts, each supporting one or more projects. Additionally, I have renewed appreciation for the wide influence of CASS and the reputation it enjoys as a national and international leader in regional studies.

Drop-in visitors, phone calls, and email queries from across the nation reach me daily. Last week I met with a father and son from Atlanta, fielded questions from a young man calling from Greece, and talked with a reporter from Kentucky. Their common comment was, “I am amazed by what you people are doing in CASS.” We are amazed, too, but not surprised. In spite of changing leadership and dwindling resources, the Center thrives because, as Jack Higgs once said, “It’s such a good idea that it just naturally generates its own momentum.”

The Center has been gathering momen-

tum for nearly 40 years. In the late 1960s and early 1970s, ETSU faculty such as Jack Higgs, Tom Burton, Ambrose Manning, Art DeRosier, and many others developed courses with Appalachian content, engaged in field research, sponsored film and lecture series, and worked with colleagues at sister institutions in North Carolina, Virginia, and Kentucky to encourage research and scholarship in Appalachian studies. The result was the creation of a number of Appalachian Centers throughout the region, as well as the Appalachian Consortium and, ultimately, the Appalachian Studies Association. Cratis Williams, who was at that time the graduate dean at Appalachian State University in Boone, N.C., helped create one of the first graduate degrees in Appalachian studies.

At ETSU, the initiative resulted in the creation of the Institute for Appalachian Affairs in 1978. Following its first two directors, Jay Reese and Linda Scott DeRosier, Richard Blaustein expanded the Institute into an Accomplished Center of Excellence, which celebrates its 20th anniversary in 2004. Blaustein focused on faculty scholarship and research, as well as oral history and outreach through publications and a recording label. When Jean Haskell was hired as Center Director in 1993, she developed linkages with chambers of commerce, focused on community development through the Appalachian Regional Commission, and began the massive *Encyclopedia of Appalachia* project. Upon Haskell’s retirement in 2002, Ted Olson managed the Center through its most critical time, including a major state financial crisis, the net result of which was the loss of three staff members and suspension of publication of *Now & Then* magazine.

Such is the legacy of the Center, and in spite of changing leadership, diminished staff, and reduced resources, CASS remains one of the most well-respected and influential centers in the Appalachian region. On the other hand, we can’t “rest on our laurels.” Now more than ever, we must use our resources wisely.

First, the Center must secure extramural funding, in the form of grants and private donations, to support mission-related initiatives in the Archives, the Reece Museum, and the Regional Resources Insti-



Roberta Herrin

tute. Secondly, the Appalachian Studies faculty must review and strengthen existing curricula and educational programs, such as the Governor’s School for Tennessee Heritage, the Appalachian Studies minor, and the Appalachian, Scottish, and Irish Studies program, and we must formalize the Bluegrass, Old Time, and Country Music program as an approved minor. Finally, the Center must evaluate the projects and programs that have been central to its mission in light of recent state, university, and regional changes.

A perfect example is *Now & Then*. Few issues have sparked so much controversy—both on campus and in the community—as the hiatus in the 20-year publication of this magazine. In early summer, I will convene an *ad hoc* group of faculty, community subscribers, and regional editors of similar publications to review the history and evolution of *Now & Then* and to advise the Center about the magazine’s future. This group will explore the significance of such a publication to the Center’s mission and goals. The Center staff and ETSU administration will then decide whether and how the continued publication of a magazine is appropriate or possible.

An *ad hoc* study group of this nature is but one approach to strategic review and planning. In the coming months, I will be asking ETSU faculty, students, staff, and administrators, along with our friends and supporters in the community and the region, to join us in other similar initiatives. Through our combined wisdom, vision, planning, and support, the Center will build a secure and productive future that honors its distinguished past.

—Roberta Herrin

NewsCASS, the newsletter of the Center for Appalachian Studies and Services (Archives of Appalachia, Carroll Reece Museum, and Regional Resources Institute) at East Tennessee State University, is published two times a year.

Center for Appalachian Studies and Services

Roberta Herrin, Director

Archives of Appalachia

Amy Barnum, Archive Assistant
Georgia Greer, Office Manager
Ned Irwin, University Archivist
Norma Myers, Curator

Reece Museum

Susan Antkiewicz, Museum Assistant
Bonnie Boochard, Photographic Technician
Lisa Erwin, Office Manager
Ed Miller, Preparator
Blair H. White, Museum Director

Regional Resources Institute

Nancy Fischman, Managing Editor, *Now & Then*
Troy Gowan, Asst. Managing Editor, *Encyclopedia of Appalachia*
Rachel Henry, Office Manager
Raymond McLain, Assistant Director, Bluegrass, Old Time, & Country Music Program
Ted Olson, Director, Appalachian, Scottish, and Irish Studies
Jill Oxendine, Managing Editor, *Encyclopedia of Appalachia*
Jack Tottle, Director, Bluegrass, Old Time, & Country Music Program

Research Associates

Richard Blaustein, Senior Research Fellow
Jean Haskell, Research Associate

NewsCASS Staff

Nancy Fischman, editor. Contributors: Bruce Behringer, Ned Irwin, Ted Olson, Jill Oxendine

continued from page 1

versity. Herrin is looking toward building on the success of the Bluegrass, Old Time, and Country Music program, and strengthening the Center's outreach programs such as the Governor's School for Tennessee Heritage and Appalachian, Scottish, and Irish Studies (ASIS). Applications were up for the Governor's School this year after massive cutbacks at the state level two years ago. Plans are in place for a summer 2004 program for ASIS at ETSU, and discussions are underway for rebuilding the relationship the Center has enjoyed with the University of Edinburgh, exploring other venues in Scotland and Ireland, and revisiting this unique travel-abroad program that has been a part of CASS since 1988.

Publications have also contributed to the Center's strong public profile in the region. Herrin is considering ways to continue the commitment to providing outlets for research and scholarship and for exploring issues about the region. The Center's *Encyclopedia of Appalachia* is nearing completion and will be published by the University of Tennessee Press in 2005. With its potential to spark conversation and research about the region, the *Encyclopedia* is also likely to generate a new level of interest in CASS and will reflect positively on ETSU. Herrin also plans to take a look at the Center's *Now & Then* magazine, which ceased publication in its 20th year because of budgetary problems.

Another goal of the new director is to expand ETSU's Appalachian Studies curriculum, eventually offering an undergraduate major and a graduate certificate through the Master of Arts in Liberal Studies. In addition, Herrin sees great opportunities for collaboration with other academic departments and schools at ETSU, as well as fostering relationships with professional organizations in the community and outside granting agencies for expanded program offerings. "I want

to build on the past 30 years," said Herrin. "The faculty and staff who first developed Appalachian studies as a scholarly, research, and curricular focus at ETSU laid the groundwork for the original Institute of Appalachian Affairs and created the core for the Appalachian Archives. Later, Richard Blaustein had the foresight to develop the Institute into one of Tennessee's Accomplished Centers of Excellence. With this legacy as its foundation, CASS will thrive." ❁

2004 ASIS Summer Program

Since its establishment in 1988, the Appalachian, Scottish, and Irish Studies (ASIS) program has helped thousands of people make connections between Appalachia and two of the region's major cultural progenitors, Scotland and Ireland, through formal study, cultural events, and field experiences. During the second summer session (July 12-August 16), the annual ASIS class will be held at ETSU. Participants will study Appalachian-Scottish-Irish connections in the classroom as well as on field trips to sites of historical interest. Also participating in this summer's class at ETSU will be a representative from the School of Scottish Studies at the University of Edinburgh, the program's partnering organization.

ASIS director Ted Olson will coordinate the class activities and provide lec-

tures, while prominent guest speakers—including ballad singer Jack Beck, folklorist Richard Blaustein, linguist Michael Montgomery, Scottish culture revivalist Flora McDonald Gammon, cultural historian Michael Lofaro, literature scholar Craig McDonald, and music scholar Loyal Jones—will present additional lectures on topics relating to their areas of expertise. Those interested in signing up for the summer 2004 ASIS class may contact ETSU's Office of the Registrar at 423-439-4230 for registration procedures. For more information about this summer's ASIS class and/or about the ASIS program generally, visit the ASIS web site at <http://cass.etsu.edu/albaire/>, email program director Ted Olson at olson@etsu.edu, or call 423-439-4379.

Briefly...

Center for Appalachian Studies and Services

Books in Print

Several Center affiliates at ETSU have published books in the past year or have books forthcoming.

Richard Blaustein's *The Thistle and the Brier* is the seventh in the series of Contributions to Southern Appalachian Studies put out by McFarland. The book explores the parallels and connections between Scotland and Southern Appalachia through folk culture revivals, native languages, and dialects in Scotland and Appalachia since the 1970s, looking at modern-day Appalachian and Scottish cultural movements and identity politics. Blaustein, founder and first director of the Center for Appalachian Studies and Services, is professor of sociology and anthropology. He also coordinates the Appalachian Studies minor and teaches in the Bluegrass, Old Time, and Country Music program. (*The Thistle and the Brier*; McFarland & Company, Inc., 2003, paper \$30)

Tom Burton has spent a great amount of time exploring and

writing about the snake-handling Holiness religion over the years. In *The Serpent and the Spirit*, he takes an in-depth look at the 1992 trial in Scottsboro, Ala., of the Reverend Glenn Summerford, who was accused of attempted murder of his wife with the snakes he handled in his church. Using primary source material, Burton provides an unbiased look at this case, allowing the reader to draw his or her own conclusions about Summerford's guilt or innocence. Burton is professor emeritus of English and was the founding director of the Appalachian-Scottish Studies program at CASS. (*The Serpent and the Spirit*, University of Tennessee Press, [May, 2004], paper \$19.95)

Melding folklore, medical anthropology, and Appalachian history, **Tony Cavender** has produced the first comprehensive book about the history and practice of folk medicine in Appalachia. Refuting the popular belief that Southern Appalachian folk medicine developed in isolation, Cavender, using oral histories and archival sources from the 19th century to the present, shows the important influences of European and Native American cul-

Briefly...

ture and modern American medical beliefs on regional health practices. The book includes chapters on folk medical belief systems, folk treatments, therapeutic plants, and folk healers. Cavender is professor of anthropology and has written several articles on folklore and folklife for the Center's *Encyclopedia of Appalachia*. (*Folk Medicine in Southern Appalachia*, University of North Carolina Press, 2003, paper \$19.95; hardcover \$55)

Kevin O'Donnell and his colleague Helen Hollingsworth take a look at the literature of the local color movement of the mid- to late-1800s in *Seekers of Scenery: Travel Writing from Southern Appalachia, 1840-1900*. The 18 articles in the book reflect the "discovery" of Southern Appalachia by national publications such as *Harper's* and *The Atlantic Monthly*. The articles provide a historic view of how the region was perceived as well as insight into the development of travel writing in the 19th century. O'Donnell, associate professor of English, is co-editor of the Environment section of the Center's *Encyclopedia of Appalachia*. (*Seekers of Scenery: Travel Writing from Southern Appalachia, 1840-1900*, [August, 2004], hardcover \$42)

Olson Edits New Annual Publication

Ted Olson, director of Appalachian, Scottish, and Irish Studies, is editor of *CrossRoads: A Southern Culture Annual*. A new publication dedicated to the interdisciplinary study and artistic appreciation of the South (broadly defined) and Southern culture, *CrossRoads* will be published annually by Mercer University Press. The new publication is based on *CrossRoads: A Journal of Southern Culture*, a periodical originally published in the early 1990s by graduate students affiliated with the University of Mississippi's Center for the Study of Southern Culture.

The scholarly work in the first volume of *CrossRoads: A Southern Culture Annual*, due out in May 2004, explores Southern language, literature, visual art, music, and food, and elucidates Southern perspectives on religion, politics, race, ethnicity, gender, and regional identity. The volume will also contain creative work from a number of leading writers and visual artists from the South. Olson is currently seeking submissions for subsequent volumes, including analytical academic essays, oral histories, memoirs, profile essays, photo essays, creative writing, and artwork. For more information, contact Olson at 423-439-4379 or email olson@etsu.edu.

Archives of Appalachia

Irwin receives McClung Award

Ned Irwin, university archivist, recently received the McClung Award from the East Tennessee Historical Society in Knoxville for the best article to appear in the *Journal of East Tennessee History* in 2002-2003. Titled "Cone and Adler: Old World Ways and a New World Business," the article examines the lives and business careers of Herman Cone and Jacob Adler, early Jewish immigrants who operated a mercantile establishment in Jonesborough, Tenn., in the middle of the 19th century. The McClung Award has been given since 1929 in memory of Calvin M. and Barbara McClung, founders of the McClung Historical Collection of the Knox County Public Library.



Jim Sledge, University Relations

Jazz violinist John Blake Jr., chairholder of the 2004 Wayne G. Basler Chair Award at ETSU, joins Bluegrass, Old Time, and Country Music director Jack Tottle and ETSU alumnus Tim Stafford in performance at the Paramount Center in Bristol, Tenn., on March 19 for the Celebration with ETSU Bluegrass Pride Band concert. Organized by Tottle, the event centered on the presence on the ETSU campus of Blake and Takeharu Kunimoto, a widely respected performer of traditional Japanese music and drama. Kunimoto is at ETSU on a yearlong fellowship to study bluegrass and storytelling. Blake has taught and entertained the public and the ETSU community in a series of lectures and performances throughout the spring semester and Kunimoto performs regularly with the Bluegrass Pride band.



Appalachian Regional Commission

Anne Pope (l), the Federal Co-Chair of the Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC), poses with two ETSU students, Kate Smith (c) and Rebecca Pierson (r), in Washington, D.C. The Appalachian Regional Commission sponsors the Appalachian Teaching Project (ATP), which, since 2001, has allowed Appalachian Studies classes at a number of universities and colleges to conduct coordinated research projects on the theme of "ensuring cultural sustainability within Appalachian communities." Managed by CASS, the ATP had 11 colleges and universities participate in 2003. Students from each school went to Washington in November 2003 in order to present research findings to the other participating students and faculty and to the ARC staff. Ted Olson (rear) has served as ETSU's faculty coordinator for the ATP during the past three years.

Calendar Calendar Calendar Calendar Calendar

2004

All exhibits at the Reece Museum are free and open to the public. Museum hours are Mon.-Wed. and Fri., 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.; Thurs., 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.; Sat. and Sun., 1-4 p.m. For more information about the Reece Museum, please call 423-439-4392 or visit the museum's web site at cass.etsu.edu/museum.

April 1-May 2

26th Annual First Tennessee Bank Art Competition and Exhibition. Sponsored by First Tennessee Bank, the Johnson City Area Arts Council, and the Reece Museum, the exhibit showcases the work of artists from within a 200-mile radius of Johnson City. This year's juror is Ray Pierotti. Opening reception April 1, 6-7:30 p.m.

April 15

Book signing. ETSU faculty members Tony Cavender and Richard Blaustein will be signing their new books at the Reece Museum. Books will be available for purchase. Refreshments will be served. 3:30-5 p.m.

April 17

Family History Preservation workshop. Held in conjunction with

the Veterans History Project, this workshop will emphasize the value of preserving family histories. Experts will provide information and demonstrate tips on methods. Faculty and staff from CASS, including the Archives and the Reece Museum, and the communication department's division of broadcasting, are scheduled to participate. 9:30-11 a.m. at the Reece Museum.

April 17

Dedication of the Veterans History Project. A collection of over 200 interviews with Northeast Tennessee veterans will be housed at the Archives of Appalachia. Dedication ceremony at 11:30 a.m. in the Archives, fourth floor of the Sherrod Library at ETSU.

May 9-31

100 Years of Jewish Life in the Tri-Cities. B'nai Shalom Congregation, the only Jewish congregation between Knoxville, Tenn., and Roanoke, Va., celebrates its centennial with an exhibit of historical artifacts and contemporary Judaica from the synagogue and former and present congregation members at the Reece Museum.

May 13-June 6

Shape of Tennessee: the Photographs of Mike Smith. ETSU art and design faculty member Mike Smith shows some of his new work at the Reece Museum. Smith is an internationally known photographer whose work is represented in the permanent print collections of the Metropolitan Museum of Art, the Museum of Modern Art, and the Whitney Museum of American Art in New York, the Art Institute of Chicago and the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, among others. Smith's work chronicles life in Southern Appalachia. As part of the exhibit, Smith will be signing copies of his new book, *You're Not from Around Here*. Opening reception and

book signing May 13, 5-7 p.m.

June 4 (postmark entry date)

Mountain Messages II—Stories and Songs: A Creative Quilt Competition. The competition, held at the Reece Museum, is open to quilters living within a 150-mile radius of Johnson City. Quilts will be judged by Becky Goldsmith and cash prizes will be given. Entries must be postmarked by this date. Entry forms and information are available on the museum web site at cass.etsu.edu/museum/calend.htm.

July 22-September 12

Mountain Messages II—Stories and Songs: A Creative Quilt Competition. Handmade original quilts expressing the theme of "stories and songs" will be shown at the Reece Museum. This year's judge, Becky Goldsmith, will present a gallery talk at the awards ceremony to be held July 22. Reception begins 5 p.m., with the gallery talk and awards ceremony following.



Unicoi County, 1998. Mike Smith's photographs are meant to go beyond stereotypes, evoking the emotions that give the viewer a clearer sense of the reality of life in the Southern Appalachian region.



Freda Goodwin of Jonesborough, Tenn., won the Best in Show award in the 2003 Mountain Messages creative quilt competition for her quilt, "In Their Own Words." Awards are also given for best hand quilting and best machine quilting.

Archives of Appalachia: Selected Recent Acquisitions

FRED W. BEHREND FAMILY COLLECTION

1950s-1970s

Consists of papers of Fred W. Behrend of Elizabethton, Tenn., relating to ornithology, local flora and fauna, Boy Scouts, camping, gardening, and Roan Mountain. Includes correspondence, bird censuses and data, nature publications, and receipts. Donated by Linda Behrend, Knoxville, Tenn.

ELLA P. BUCHANAN PAPERS

1785-2003

Consists of miscellaneous family papers belonging to Ella P. Buchanan relating to the Brown, Cox, Pierce, and Sevier families, Brown's Mill, account books, early photographs (including tintypes and stereo cards), and books related to Tennessee law, politics, and medicine. Donated by Ernestine Renfro, executor of Buchanan's estate, Jonesborough, Tenn.

CAVENDER FOLK MEDICINE COLLECTION

1870-2003

Consists primarily of interviews and research papers relating to folk medicine in Appalachia prepared by ETSU students in Tony Cavender's anthropology classes, along with research source materials collected by Cavender. Donated by Tony Cavender, department of sociology and anthropology, ETSU.

JOHNSON CITY LIONESS CLUB RECORDS

1985-2003

Consists of records of the club from its beginning in 1985 until its final meeting in 2003 and includes secretary's records, newsletters, scrapbook pages, and certificate of organization. Donated by Katherine Honour, Johnson City, Tenn.

ROBERT MCMILLON COLLECTION

1979-1981

Consists of sound recordings of Sara and Janette Carter, the Carter family, Mae Shults Phillips, Lattimore (Lot) Hughes, and Lizzie Ellison. Donated by Robert McMillon, Lenoir, N.C.

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF RETIRED FEDERAL EMPLOYEES RECORDS

1953-2000

Consists of records of the local chapter of the NARFE and includes the 1953 charter, minute books, registration books, scrapbooks, proclamations, and newsletters. Donated by Charles Aiken, Johnson City, Tenn.

GEORGE E. PETTENGILL COLLECTION

1973-2000

Consists of documents related to Norfolk Southern Corporation and Southern Railway Company, including annual reports, newsletters, and miscellaneous stockholder information. Donated by George Pettengill, Johnson City, Tenn.

WILLIAM L. AND GOWAN MERSON SMITH COLLECTION

1965-1975

Consists of audio tape recordings of live performances, radio broadcasts, and commercial recordings related to Scottish and popular music. Donated by Thomas Merson, Los Alamos, N.M.

UNIVERSITY PHOTOGRAPHIC COLLECTION

1993-1999

Consists of photographic prints, contact sheets, negatives, and slides related to ETSU personnel, scenes, and events. Donated by Larry Smith, University Relations, ETSU.

VETERANS HISTORY PROJECT COLLECTION

2002-2003

Consists of oral history interviews of East Tennessee veterans who served in World War II, Korea, Vietnam, and the Gulf War. Donated by the Center for Appalachian Studies and Services, ETSU.

In addition, the Archives thanks the following for recent donations of materials: Robert Alexander, Ormond Beach, Fla.; Appalshop, Whitesburg, Ky.; Monica Appleby, Blacksburg, Va.; D. R. Beeson, Jr., Johnson City, Tenn.; James Birchfield, Lexington, Ky.; Carolyn Bond, Sherrod Library, ETSU; John Bryans, Arlington, Va.; Pat Buck, ETSU; Thomas Burton, Johnson City, Tenn.; Bernard Cantor, Johnson City, Tenn.; CASS, ETSU; Central Baptist Church, Johnson City, Tenn.; City of Johnson City, Tenn.; Betty J. Cox, Erwin, Tenn.; Ronnie Day, Department of History, ETSU; Katie Doman, Johnson City, Tenn.; Martha and Noel Fuller, Kingsport, Tenn.; Nancy L. Godfrey, Townsend, Tenn.; Lucy Gump, Johnson City, Tenn.; Roberta Herrin, CASS, ETSU; Jack Higgs, Johnson City, Tenn.; John R. Hughes, Gray, Tenn.; Image Visions, Greenville, Del.; Johnson City (Tenn.) Public Library; Tim P. Jones, Johnson City, Tenn.; Richard M. Kesner, Marlborough, Mass.; John L. Kiener, Johnson City, Tenn.; Graham Leonard, Kingsport, Tenn.; Ronald McConnell, Chester, N.J.; Mattie L. Mettetal, Johnson City, Tenn.; Michael Montgomery, Columbia, S.C.; Norma Myers, Archives of Appalachia,

ETSU; National Society Daughters of the American Colonists, Captain Jacob Womack Chapter, Johnson City, Tenn.; Office of Outcomes Assessment, ETSU; Carol Robin Pendleton, Johnson City, Tenn.; Pittsylvania County Public Library, Chatham, Va.; Reece Museum, ETSU; Bradley Reeves, Archives, ETSU; Marie Royston, Telford, Tenn.; James Rutenbeck, Newton, Mass.; Donald Shaffer, Johnson City, Tenn.; Sherrod Library, ETSU; Sandra Sleight-Brennan, Athens, Ohio; Thomas Sneed, Johnson City, Tenn.; Southern Appalachian Mountains Initiative, Asheville, N.C.; George Stone, Bristol, Tenn.; Jack Tottle, ETSU; Mark K. Vanzant, Johnson City, Tenn.; Vardy Community Historical Society, Inc., Sneedville, Tenn.; Greg Wallace, Johnson City, Tenn.; and Martha Whaley, Elizabethton, Tenn.

Archives Receives Generous Gift, Grant

The Archives of Appalachia was recently awarded \$9,000 by the Appalachian Music Association to help the archives preserve the region's musical heritage. The association was organized in the late 1970s in the Bristol area to promote the music and heritage of the Appalachian region. Remaining association members Mr. and Mrs. Sterling Ferrell, Lester and Lois Murray, all of Bristol, Tenn., and Mr. and Mrs. Earl Rice of Bristol, Va., decided there was no "better way to carry on the original mission" of the association than to make the donation to the archives.

"This gift means so much to us," said Norma Myers, archives curator, "The Appalachian Music Association's generosity and foresight will help us to preserve and make accessible the music that is so important to our region."

Another award just given to the Archives will also help preserve cultural artifacts related to the region's music. The National Academy of Recording Arts and Sciences has awarded \$16,615 to preserve 36 tapes of the Bonnie Lou and Buster Show, recorded between 1968 and 1982 at WATE-TV in Knoxville, Tenn. These programs document priceless examples of country music and local television music broadcasting. The original tapes are deteriorating and are unplayable. The grant will be used to prepare Betacam SP tapes for storage and VHS cassettes for public use.

New Executive Aide Joins Staff

The Center has acquired a new executive aide. Rachel Henry has taken over the position from Rebecca Grindstaff, who transferred to the department of social work. Henry comes to CASS from the history department, where she worked for nine years. Prior to that, she worked for 18 months on a grant project directed by Jack Rhoton in curriculum and instruction in the College of Education.

Henry, a native of Cleveland, Ohio, has been married to Emerson "Buck" Henry for 36 years. They have two daughters. Jeanette, who earned her Bachelor of Fine Arts degree from ETSU in 1998, works at ETSU's University Press as a graphic design specialist. Susan, who has a bachelor's in Sociology from ETSU, lives in Maryville, Tenn., and is a manager at TGI Friday's. The family has always been actively involved with fraternal organizations. Recently, Rachel and Buck were elected Worthy Matron and Worthy Patron (the presiding officers) of the Nolichucky Grand View Chapter #194 of the Order of Eastern Star. Rachel has been involved with OES since she was 20 years old.

Hired during the transition period CASS was undergoing last summer and fall, Henry was faced with a myriad of new responsibilities. She finds that the Center is more business-oriented than an academic department. The most difficult part of the transition for her has been learning to oversee multiple budgets. The Center has separate budgets for each of its programs and projects as well as for the Center of Excellence grant and match, and various other accounts. Henry says she sees much less student traffic through the office than at the history department, which has classes that are part of the university core curriculum. Her contact with students continues, however, as she supervises

the Center's student workers, several of whom followed her to CASS from the history department.

Henry, who has also been a past president of the Professional Staff Association at ETSU, enjoys her work at CASS. She likes the people here, and considers them pleasant and cheerful. "I have never worked at a place I didn't like, where I didn't get along with people or not enjoy my work," she said. "Work is what you make it." ❀



Rachel Henry (l) discusses an assignment with Staci Smith, a student worker at the Center. Henry oversees nine students who work various hours at CASS under several work-study programs available at ETSU.

Become a member of the Center for Appalachian Studies and Services

YOUR MEMBERSHIP SUPPORTS the Center's many programs, publications, and projects in teaching, research, and service in Appalachia; exhibitions, concerts, gallery talks, and workshops; the Bluegrass, Old Time, and Country Music Program; Appalachian, Scottish, and Irish Studies; the Governor's School for Tennessee Heritage; the *Encyclopedia of Appalachia*; Friends of the Reece

Museum (FORM); and acquisition and care of collections at the Archives of Appalachia and the Reece Museum.

To find out more about the Center for Appalachian Studies and Services and all our programs, visit our web site at <http://cass.etsu.edu>, write to us at CASS, Box 70556, East Tennessee State University, Johnson City TN 37614-1707, or call us at (423) 439-7865.

CUT ME OUT AND SEND ME IN!

YES, I want to become a member of the Center for Appalachian Studies and Services!

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

e-mail: _____

☐ \$25 Payment enclosed ☐ I wish to add a donation of \$ _____

Make check payable to ETSU/CASS and mail with this card to the Center for Appalachian Studies and Services, ETSU, Box 70556, Johnson City TN 37614-1707.

I would like my membership contribution to go to (you may pick more than one):

- ☐ Center General Fund
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- ☐ Reece Museum General Fund

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Contact us ...



Archives of Appalachia

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Reece Museum

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continued from page 1

ETSU faculty and students and community partners in Hancock, Hawkins, Johnson, and Unicoi counties in Northeast Tennessee. Faculty and staff from multiple programs and disciplines met to generate a plan that blended community-based student learning with faculty re-

In Memoriam Harold Stewart 1932-2004

Harold Stewart, who held the position of preparator at the Reece Museum from 1993 until his retirement in 1999, died on March 15, 2004, from injuries sustained in a motorcycle accident. Stewart, remembered for his optimistic outlook on life and his great sense of humor, loved to be out riding the roads. Our heartfelt condolences go out to his wife, Wynne, and his family. He will be sorely missed by all who knew him.

search interests and service to our region.

ETSU activities included: interviews of veterans by students from ETSU's storytelling program, service-learning programs, the history department, and the broadcasting division of the department of communication; training arranged by the Office of Student Life and Leadership for high school social studies teachers and students to conduct local interviews; and production of several editions of "Appalachian Digest," a new television magazine series produced by the ETSU division of broadcasting, using interviews of the district's veterans and their families, some conducted personally by Congressman Jenkins.

Two future activities will include development of a play about wartime at the homefront by the communication department's theater division to be performed in Hawkins County in the fall of 2004, and a special display of regional veterans artifacts opening at the Reece Museum in November 2004.

During the past two years, over 200 interviews have been collected and the Center's Archives of Appalachia was se-

Henry Louis Gates Jr. to Write Encyclopedia Foreword

Noted scholar, educator, and author Henry Louis Gates Jr. has agreed to write the opening "Foreword" essay for the *Encyclopedia of Appalachia*, which is being compiled at the Center and will be published by the University of Tennessee Press in 2005.

The son of a West Virginia paper mill worker, Gates currently chairs the Afro-American Studies program at Harvard University. He is considered one of the most prominent academics in America today and a major instigator in the national movement to transform black studies into a respected discipline. As a critic and editor, Gates has contributed to broadening the discourse on African American literature with books such as *Figures in Black: Words, Signs, and the Racial Self* and *The Signifying Monkey: Towards a Theory of Afro-American Literary Criticism*. In the late 1990s, he also co-edited a Pan-African encyclopedia on CD-ROM for Microsoft.

Gates currently serves as a member of the *Encyclopedia of Appalachia's* Advisory Board. "As a native of Appalachia, Gates has brought an interesting perspective to the project, and we are extremely honored he is willing to write the opening essay," noted CASS director Roberta Herrin.

Compiling of articles for the *Encyclopedia* will be completed in May 2004, at which time UT Press will continue layout and design of the book. After all design work is completed, a professional indexer will begin the massive task of indexing the entries, the final step before publication. ☼

lected as the depository. A dedication ceremony honoring the district's veterans and opening the collection will be held at the Archives on April 17, 2004, at 11:30 a.m. Congressman Jenkins and ETSU President Paul E. Stanton Jr. are scheduled to participate.

In addition to the dedication, a workshop will be conducted at Reece Museum from 9:30-11 a.m. The workshop will emphasize the value of preserving family histories such as those of our veterans, and experts will provide information and demonstrate tips on methods (video, audio, and written) of how everyone can become involved. Faculty and staff from CASS, including the Archives and the Reece Museum, and broadcasting are scheduled to participate. The expected outcome of the workshop, which is open to the public, will be an even greater involvement by our regional community in gathering histories and historical artifacts that can be shared through the Veterans History collection. For more information about the workshop and the dedication ceremony, contact Bruce Behringer at 423-439-7809 or email behringe@estu.edu. ☼